

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:LPFEIFLE:DS  
APPROVED BY ARA:TTODMAN  
ARA:JBUSHNELL  
S/S-0 :JETHYDEN

-----047827 072231Z /64

P R 072201Z APR 78 ZFF6  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMCONSUL BELIZE

S E C R E T STATE 090007

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

AGS: PBOR, UK, BH, GT

SUBJECT: BELIZE

PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO ROWLANDS FROM TODMAN:

1. WE SHARE YOUR BELIEF IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP NEGOTIA-  
TIONS GOING EVEN THOUGH IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT AN AGREEMENT  
COULD BE REACHED IN THE NEAR FUTURE. IN ADDITION TO THE  
REASONS YOU MENTIONED FOR CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS THERE IS  
ALSO THE CONCERN OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION OVER THE  
POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE SITUATION. DURING PRESIDENT CARTER'S  
RECENT TRIP, PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ STRESSED TO HIM  
THE NEED TO FIND A SOLUTION SOON TO THE BELIZE DISPUTE.

FURTHERMORE, THERE IS AN OUTSIDE CHANCE LAUGERUD MAY  
STILL WANT TO REACH A SETTLEMENT BEFORE LEAVING OFFICE. (HE

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SAID PUBLICLY APRIL 4 THAT HE CONTINUES TO SEEK A SOLUTION.)  
THUS, WE BELIEVE IT VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU RESUME TALKS  
WITH THE GUATEMALANS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.  
THERE IS LESS FLEXIBILITY IN GUATEMALA NOW. THE RIGHT  
MADE A STRONG SHOWING IN THE ELECTION AND LUCAS APPARENTLY  
IS LESS FLEXIBLE THAN LAUGERUD. IN ADDITION, THE REOPEN-  
ING OF THE PREVIOUSLY AGREED-ON-PACKAGE WILL LIKELY

CAUSE THE GUATEMALANS TO APPROACH FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS WITH MORE SKEPTICISM THAN HERETOFORE. THEY

ALSO MUST BE AWARE OF THE STRENGTH OF THE BELIZEAN OPPOSITION AND ITS CURRENT POSITION CALLING FOR A 10-YEAR MORATORIUM ON INDEPENDENCE. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES; THE GUATEMALANS MAY HESITATE TO ACCEPT ANY NEW PROPOSALS.

IT IS CLEAR THAT TERRITORIAL QUESTION REMAINS THE MOST DIFFICULT ISSUE. PERHAPS THE BEST TACTIC IN THE SHORT RUN WOULD BE TO DISCUSS SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS ON WHICH THE GUATEMALANS HAVE SHOWED SOME FLEXIBILITY AND NOT RAISE THE REDUCED TERRITORIAL PACKAGE WHICH THEY WOULD PROBABLY REJECT.

FOR THE REASONS CITED THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF THE GUATEMALANS ACCEPTING THE PROPOSALS ON TERRITORY WHICH YOU OUTLINED TO US. THEY ARE A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION FROM THE PREVIOUS AGREED ON PACKAGE, ESPECIALLY WITH REFERENCE TO THE CAYS. THOUGH THEY MIGHT SERVE AS A USEFUL NEGOTIATING PLOY WE DOUBT THEY COULD BE THE BASIS OF A SETTLEMENT. WE SUSPECT THAT THE BEST WAY TO OBTAIN GUATEMALAN CONSIDERATION OF A REDUCED PACKAGE IS TO FIND A WAY TO ASSURE THEM THAT PRICE WOULD GO ALONG. EVEN IN  
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THOSE CONDITIONS, WE BELIEVE YOUR NEW PROPOSALS WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR GUATEMALA TO ACCEPT.

PRESIDENT PEREZ RAISED THE BELIZE DISPUTE WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. PEREZ STRESSED THE POTENTIAL DANGER OF PRICE'S PURSUIT OF A SECURITY GUARANTEE. HE BELIEVES LUCAS WOULD INVADE IF BELIZE DECLARED UNILATERAL INDEPENDENCE AND PRICE THEN MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO TURN TO CUBA FOR ASSISTANCE. PEREZ STRESSED THE URGENCY OF THE NEED FOR A SETTLEMENT BASED ON BOUNDARY RECTIFICATION, BUT THOUGHT GUATEMALA WAS ASKING TOO MUCH. PEREZ WAS FULLY PREPARED TO BE ACTIVE IN HELPING TO FIND A FORMULA FOR A SETTLEMENT AND PERSUADING PRICE TO ACCEPT IT.

2. WITH REFERENCE TO SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, WE FIND YOUR POINTS WELL TAKEN. IN THE DRAFT TREATY WE WOULD SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING NEW TEXT FOR ARTICLES III, IV, AND VI:

ARTICLE III - THE PROVISION OF ARMS, WAR MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT, THE TRAINING, RECRUITMENT, ORGANIZATION,

OR TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS, OR FINANCING OR OBTAINING FINANCING, IN FURTHERANCE OF THE ACTS WHICH ARE SPECIFIED TO BE PREVENTED BY THE FOREGOING ARTICLES, SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS PARTICIPATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE FOREGOING ARTICLE.

ARTICLE IV - EACH PARTY UNDERTAKES TO PROHIBIT, BETWEEN IT AND EVERY OTHER PARTY, ANY TRAFFIC OR COMMERCE IN ARMS OR WAR EQUIPMENT OR MUNITIONS FROM BEING CARRIED OUT BY NON-OFFICIAL PERSONS OR ENTITIES WITHIN ITS TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION.

ARTICLE VI - EACH PARTY UNDERTAKES NOT TO MAINTAIN OR PERMIT TO BE MAINTAINED ON ITS TERRITORY FOREIGN  
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MILITARY OR PARA-MILITARY FORCES, FOREIGN POLICE FORCES, FOREIGN DEFENSE SITES OR FOREIGN MILITARY INSTALLATIONS, EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES OR OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THIS ARTICLE SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO PREVENT THE CONTINUED PROVISIONAL MAINTENANCE IN BELIZE OF BRITISH FORCES AS BEFORE THE INDEPENDENCE OF BELIZE, OR OF BRITISH TRAINING TEAMS OR, IN THE TERRITORY OF ANY PARTY, TRAINING TEAMS WHOSE SOLE AND TEMPORARY MISSION IS TO TRAIN MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF A PARTY IN THE USE OF FOREIGN MILITARY EQUIPMENT OR AIRCRAFT. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
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**Subject:** BELIZE  
**TAGS:** PBOR, UK, BH, GT, US  
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**Type:** TE  
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